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La Porte Police Offer 911 Guidelines for Kids

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The La Porte Police recently issued guidelines for children in the event that they need to call 911.

In the guidelines, the first thing the police want children to know is what 911 is and how it works. The police tell children that 911 is a free number to dial for the fastest possible emergency response when the police department, fire department or medical assistance is needed in a life-or-death situation. The call is taken by the La Porte Police Department Dispatch Center Telecommunicator to determine the type of assistance that is needed.

The police also let children know when they should call 911. They suggest calling when an emergency is occurring or has just occurred. They tell children to stay calm and give their name, location and the nature of the emergency. They are reminded to answer all of the operator's questions and not to hang up the phone.

The most important information children need to give the operator is the phone number from where they are calling, a brief story of what happened, where it happened, who was involved and information on any injuries.

Additionally, children are told that 911 is not for directory assistance, emergency telephone repair or other non-emergency calls that are not life-or-death situations. For non-emergency situations, children should call the La Porte Police non-emergency phone number at 281-471-2141.

Lastly, the police tell children to never tell a 911 operator that a situation is more serious than it really is just to get faster service. It is against the law to intentionally give false information to the police.

For more information on 911 or other emergency procedures, contact the department's non-emergency line.